



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Governor Charles D. Baker
Lt. Governor Karyn E. Polito
EEA Secretary Matthew A. Beaton
DCR Commissioner John P. Murray

Press Release Contact: Bill Hickey — (617) 626-1453 or William.hickey@state.ma.us

DCR Historic Curatorship Program Proposal Deadline Extended for Coachman's House at Maudslay State Park

*Open House Coachman's House in Newburyport's Maudslay State Park Rescheduled for
Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 1:00 -3:00 p.m.*

BOSTON – Friday, February 20, 2015 - Due to the unprecedented snow accumulation in February, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) has extended proposal deadline for the Bell Farmhouse and the Coachman's House and Outbuildings at Maudslay State Park in Newburyport will be extended. The Open House is tentatively rescheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 10am-3pm. The deadline for proposals is now April 21, 2015 by 3pm.

Updated information has been posted to the Historic Curatorship website soon. tinyurl.com/ma-curators. Through DCR's Historic Curatorship Program, outside parties rehabilitate, manage and maintain a historic property in return for credit toward a long-term lease.

"The Historic Curatorship Program demonstrates an innovative and entrepreneurial approach to preserving the history and culture of our park system," said DCR Commissioner Jack Murray. "Once rehabilitated, these properties are maintained and operated by the Curator, with public access to the grounds provided at various times during the year."

The Coachman's House and its outbuildings make up the greatest concentration of original structures from the turn-of-the-century Moseley family Estate. Designed around 1900 by Boston architect William G. Rantoul, the Shingle style buildings are situated on a wooded, hilly parcel along the banks of the Merrimack River. Surrounded by mature hardwoods, mountain laurel and rhododendrons, the landscaped grounds are an integral part of the property's historic significance. Proposals will be accepted for the Coachman's House alone, or the House and the three outbuildings.

The Bell House is an excellent intact example of an early 19th century farmhouse and is connected to the story of the Moseley Estate as well as the agricultural pre-estate period. The 2-story wood frame house and barn are located near the entrance to Maudslay State Park. Both properties are minutes from Newburyport's vibrant downtown, coastal beaches and

Interstate 95. DCR encourages and will give additional consideration to any proposals that include overnight accommodations (bed and breakfast / guest house).

DCR's Historic Curatorship Program is one of only a handful in the country and has become a model for other state and municipal programs. The program requires that the reuses are compatible with the park and the surrounding community. Curators are chosen through an open and competitive selection process, based on a number of criteria, including the overall quality of the proposal, experience in restoration and historic preservation, financial resources, and the proposed incorporation of public benefits and environmentally sustainable building practices. Curators must provide public access to the property at least two times a year.

The RFP provides information on the property and the Historic Curatorship Program, outlines the response requirements, describes DCR's criteria for evaluating proposals for selection, and provides conditions assessments, cost estimates and other background material to assist in the preparation of a proposal.

Established in 1994, the Historic Curatorship Program matches some of the Commonwealth's significant historic resources with outside partners interested in providing rehabilitation, management and maintenance services in exchange for a long-term lease. Since the program's inception, over \$15 million in private funds has been leveraged toward the preservation of some of the state's unused but significant historic properties. The program has become a national model, inspiring other government entities to add this innovative public-private partnership to their preservation toolbox.

To date, twenty properties have been rehabilitated under the program, from the mountains of Berkshire County to the urban streets of Dorchester, from the banks of the Merrimack River in Lowell to the forests of Foxboro. Current uses for the properties include single-family homes, artist lofts, nonprofit groups, and events and lodging facilities. Successful Curators are able to leverage their own 'sweat equity' towards preservation and management work.

For electronic copies of the RFP, as well as more details on the Historic Curatorship Program, visit DCR's website: tinyurl.com/ma-curators. For hard copies of the documents or more information on the program, send an e-mail to HCP.Requests@state.ma.us, call 617-626-1361, or write to Historic Curatorship Program, Department of Conservation and Recreation, 7th floor, 251 Causeway St., Boston, MA 02114. If you plan to attend the Open House, please RSVP to HCP.Requests@state.ma.us.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner John P. Murray, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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251 Causeway Street, Suite 600, Boston, MA 02114 — (617) 626-1250 office / (617) 626-1351 (fax)